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Making music

Linda Powell Love takes a break between songs during the Highlands Chamber Orchestra's presentation of *Dynamics & Dances* on May 27 in Haliburton. For more photos, see inside this issue. /TIM YANO special to the Echo



Dysart works toward policy that governs telecommunication tower sites

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Dysart will take a little more time to explore Highlands East's tower siting policy before deciding whether or not to mirror its own guidelines on it.

During the May 23 township council meeting, Jeff Iles, director of planning and land information, parsed the Highlands East Telecommunications Antenna/Tower Siting and Consultation Protocol.

The sister municipality's rules clarifies that the township can't assess submissions based on potential health effects or impacts on property values because those are under federal jurisdiction.

Iles said he liked how the tower siting policy is broken down into three preferred areas: government-owned land, non-residential areas, and location that protect view corridors.

Highlands East's policy also describes areas that are discouraged as sites for communications towers. These include sites within 120 metres of provincially and

locally significant wetlands, within 120 metres of environmentally protected areas, and within 20 metres of any permanent watercourse, river, or lake.

Tower proposals must follow the standard federal default public consultation process. The sister municipality's policy also spells out guidelines for enhanced public consultation.

Highlands East has also delved into design guidelines for proposed towers and camouflaging.

"Those are some of the key points I think I'd like to bring to council's attention," Iles

said. "All in all, I think it's a good policy."

"It's certainly better than what we've got now," said Mayor Murray Fearrey.

Councillor Tammy Donaldson said adopting the Highlands East policy would update Dysart's rules which were written in 2014.

Coun. Pat Casey suggested council defer a decision to adopt the policy as its own until councillors has had adequate time to weigh it.

"There's a lot in there," he said. "We should make sure that, we're going to do it, we do it right."



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JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

But hold on. Allow me to give some context for that lede sentence.

Higher average temperatures and more extreme heat waves are common. That's the warm.

And, globally, storm events have gotten ... well, wilder. Haliburton County council got a look at the latest draft

Korey McKay, the county's climate change coordinator, said climate change is a global issue, but it makes

"Through things like land use and transportation planning," she said.

“For every dollar that’s invested in some of the most important climate adaptation measures, you can save \$13

"We just have to find ways to rapidly deploy them and make them more accessible to people," McKay said.

Phase 1 included corporate mitigation and involves reducing greenhouse gas emissions across municipal

Corporate adaptation in Phase 2 involves reducing the impacts of climate change across municipal operations

Community mitigation and adaptation, the bones of Phase 3, involves creating a long-term strategic roadmap

Haliburton County's Committee of the Whole recommended on Oct. 13, 2021, that council direct staff to proceed with the development of a Community Climate Action Plan.

Staff presented the results of the first community engagement to council on July 20, 2022. The results of the second community engagement to Committee of the Whole were presented on March 8.

The first strategy to offset climate change locally is to park the personal vehicle. But Haliburton County is a geographically vast area.

The third strategy has homes, cottages, and work places being retrofitted for energy efficiency.

The fifth strategy involves adopting an approach toward local low carbon energy production.

"The plan will be most successful if we collaborate with other organizations in the community as well as

vehicle destination. Snowmobiles, boats, all-terrain vehicles are gasoline-powered and the people who ride them are drawn to the region.

Ryall asked how combating climate change can be reconciled with local tourism industry pursuits.

There's an organization called Plug'n Drive that will bring electric vehicles to a community for people to test

Regarding boating, she suggested promoting paddling as opposed to motorized watercraft.

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Ed Peterson, founder and director of operations of the Tiny Towns Association, broached the micro housing

The association promotes permanent affordable tiny or micro home communities. The means of building tiny

“We’re not saying that we know everything that we’re going to encounter during this process because this is a

He said the association is looking for municipalities to provide land for the development.

"We're really not looking to make money," Peterson said. "That's not the goal here. And I know that that's a

Peterson takes a standard wage from the money that's raised in the development process, he said. But most of

Plans include pocket communities of four to 12 tiny homes on about a half-acre of serviced urban property.

The tiny home demographic includes seniors, first-time homebuyers, and immigrants, he said.

the participant, but the association is looking toward \$1,180 a month.

"It's a five-year program so, at the end of the five years, the participant has accumulated enough money

159th Haliburton County fair is back

JERELYN CRADEN

Special to the Echo

Just thinking about the 159th Haliburton County Fair (HCF) in Minden on Saturday, June 10, can transport you back in time. A time when life was simpler. When kids' pony rides, agricultural displays, a horse pull, a petting zoo, demonstrations you had never seen before, and adjudicated contests with categories for kids as well as adults offered you a chance to take home a first, second, and third place prize. This year, on June 10, there will be no need for nostalgia – it will all be happening in real time. Plus, you will have even more to see, do, and enjoy.

With ten directors, a dozen associate directors, and 50 volunteers, Mary-Lou Clark, HCF Chair is excited. "We're expecting about 1,600 visitors this year," she said. "I can hardly wait to see the kids' exhibits and everything that's on display in the two exhibit buildings. Plus, we have a lot of new exciting attractions."

Sponsored by the Minden Agricultural Society, the HCF's opening ceremony will begin with the sound of bagpipes heralding its 159th year, followed by greetings from dignitaries and the Fair Board Executive.

Live music kicks off on the main stage at 11 a.m. and continues until 2:20 p.m. This year's Country and Western music lineup includes: Country Hot Flashes, Louie Reynolds, Barnard & Brohm, The Todd Nolan Show.

Then, it's Open Mic on the main stage starting at 3:30 p.m. A chance to get your feet wet. Sing or play that new song. Be a part of it.

For a main HCF highlight, it's the Leroy Nesbitt Memorial Horse Pull that takes place at 3:30 p.m.

All day, you can enjoy the Classic & Antique Car Show, Kids' pony rides (free), petting zoo featuring reptiles and hedgehogs will be making their debut. Plus, exhibits and demonstrations will be on-going at the Minden Curling Club and additional exhibit building.

Minden Curling Club

Located on the HCF property, the Minden Curling Club will be filled with exhibits, a tea room, baked goods, demonstrations including sewing, rug hooking, journal making, woodworking, glass blowing and more. The Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild, Horticultural Society, Abbey Retreat and A Warm Hug from the Highlands with Shelley VanNood, will be there sharing information and some give-aways at their booths.

Exhibits in additional building

"Clark and Cathy Fisher will check in exhibitors on Friday from noon to 6 p.m.," Clark said. "There are different exhibit categories which are voted on, starting at 6 p.m. on Friday. First, second, and third place winners receive ribbons, plus \$5 for first place, \$4 for second, \$3 for third, and \$10 for specialty exhibit entries." Saturday morning, visitors can enjoy seeing the winning entries for all of the various kids' and adult categories.

Adult categories include –

Fiber art – a woven hot pad or scarf, or afghan, throw, macrame.

Quilting includes – a baby quilt, machined quilt, hand-quilted quilt, rug, wall-hanging, table runner, tote bag,

and anything else that is quilted.

Home Crafts include – a loaf of bread, tea biscuits, decorated cupcakes, lemon or banana loaf, muffins, maple syrup, honey, strawberry jam, salsa, chutney, pickles and more.

Needle Crafts – knitted socks, child's mittens, stuffed animals, pillow cases.

Flowers and Plants – violets, tulips, aloe vera.

New this year – Fairy Garden must be made of succulent cactus.

Specialty entries this year – "An old leather item, decorated, it could be anything," Clark said. "Like an old leather belt or a hat, a wallet...anything decorated."

Kids' categories include:

Home Crafts – Rice crispies squares, brownies, muffins, cupcakes, cookies, personal-size pizza, a healthy lunch in a container, and more.

Junior Art Crafts – Legos, decorative flower pots, something made from a found object, a painted farm animal, homemade jewelry can be with pipe cleaners, beads, string, etc. Coloured page from a colouring book. Home-made book mark, a special card, or farm scene made from Playdough.

Photography – wildlife, domestic animals, sporting event, summer/winter fun.

A book of all exhibit categories will be available to the public at Minden and Haliburton libraries and various

other locations, and on the Haliburton County Fair Facebook page.

Food & beverage

New this year: Boshkung Brewery. Plus, the always popular, Kawartha Dairy, beef on a bun, hot dogs and sausages will be served.

Even more at the fair

New this year: REMAX air balloon rides. Turtle Guardians will bring turtles. MNR will be there with Smokey the Bear. Plus, the OPP, Minden Fire Department, and EMS. The Farmers Association will bring baby animals (lambs, chickens).

New admission pricing – Kids 0 – 5 admission is free. 6 – 12, \$5. 13 and up, \$10.

Camping at HCF – June 9 to 11 – First come first served.

Campers can check in with Eric Casper, Associate Director (past HCF President) on Friday, June 9, 8:30 a.m. – check-out Sunday, 11 a.m. Camping fee: \$25 per trailer plus HCF admission per person. 8 to 15 spots will be available.

Recommended: Bring lawn chairs, rain jacket (just in case), sunscreen, and a hat.

For more information visit www.haliburtoncounty.ca or Haliburton County Fair on Facebook.



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Kawartha Lakes health group rolls out the red carpet

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The boss at the Kawartha Lakes Ontario Health Teams is looking forward to Haliburton County coming aboard.

Stephanie MacLaren, the Kawartha Lakes Ontario Health Team's (OHT) executive director, said she hopes to one day rejig her organization's moniker to Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Ontario Health Team.

MacLaren made her pitch for that during county council's regular meeting May 24.

The organization is one of 54 such teams across the province and one of 13 in the Ontario Health East region. The team is a group of health care providers and organizations, as well as patients, families, and caregivers that work toward improved health outcomes.

"Our overall purpose is to have a relentless focus on supporting people to live their healthiest lives possible," MacLaren said.

Their members include the City of Kawartha Lakes, Ross Memorial Hospital, and a number of family health teams from that city.

"We are hoping and intending that the health service providers in Haliburton County will be swiftly on board and joining us in this journey as we work to improve access to services, particularly in the community," she said.

Members of an OHT are at the group's governance level and can only be a member of that single regional team.

Partners, on the other hand, are community stakeholder groups that are members of one OHT but can have a hand in the initiatives of other OHTs.

The Quintuple Aim is directed to improve equitable access to care, patient and caregiver experience, population and patient health outcomes, value and efficiency, and provider experience.

The Quintuple Aim defines all of the work done by OHTs, MacLaren said.

"Those of us that have been in health care have watched this merge over the years from a triple aim to a quadruple aim," she said. "And now with the addition

of better equitable access to care, we are welcoming the Quintuple Aim."

It describes the foundational pillars of the work the OHT does. It's about providing a person-centric plan of care for the patient and family that takes into account literacy, mental health, income, cultural needs.

"This is where integrative care starts to happen in the wild, I like to say, and become highly contextual," MacLaren said. "We're taking the conversation beyond traditional health care and broadening it to be inclusive of context as well as fostering linkages between health and social services."

That's heavy work, she said. The organization uses committees and advisory councils and task-specific working groups to parcel out chunks of its mammoth task.

"We can't boil the ocean," she said.

What matters to health is access to primary care, availability of home care, accessible community services, and mental health and addictions support.

The issues that matter to service providers include reliability of home care, primary care's availability, addressing intersections such as seniors or low-income families with mental health and addictions.

Of concern, too, is the ability of patients, families, and health service providers to navigate the system and the ability of clinicians and service providers to communicate and have electronic medical record integration through shared records.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, extended a bouquet for the work undertaken by the OHT. Just trying to understand health care in Ontario is a "daunting task," he said.

The original concept of OHTs was to serve a larger area in which it would be easier to provide a full continuum of care. Haliburton County is a smaller area bereft of specialized health services found in larger centres. So he asked what the future would look like for smaller locales.

"Most OHTs, with the exception of large urban centres, are in the same position where we don't have the large tertiary care centres in our communities," MacLaren said. "So there's a recognition, encouragement to partner with those tertiary care centres."

A tertiary care centre is a hospital or clinic dedicated to a specialty service to which patients are referred to continue care.

"We can improve the processes of discharge from our own local hospitals, but there are some patients that are going to need much more advanced care than we have available," MacLaren said. "So we're having that conversation now."

She added that opportunities for partnerships are always sought and considered.

Mike Rutter, the county's clerk and CAO, said draft partnership documents will be brought to county council in about two weeks during its Committee of the While meeting.

Should a partnership be favourable to county council, a bylaw to facilitate it would then be brought to the following council meeting, Rutter said.

"We certainly appreciate the ongoing connection that you've provided," said Warden Liz Daniels, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands. "It makes things a lot more streamlined."

County CAO winds down his career

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton will look a little different come November.

The familiar face who has facilitated every county council meeting, known by locals and visitors alike, will be retiring.

Mike Rutter has been the CAO of Haliburton County for eight years, and after an entire career in municipal government, he brought a wealth of experience and insight to the role. "It's all I've ever done," he shared with the *Echo*, outlining that he has worked in eight municipalities across Ontario during his career.

But Haliburton was always home. "My family goes way back," he said, "we've been in the area for well over 100 years."

Rutter grew up in the eastern part of the county, attending Wilberforce Elementary School, before heading to Haliburton Highlands Senior Elementary School (now called JDH Elementary), and finally graduating from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

He then went on to pursue his post-secondary education from Trent University and Fleming College in Peterborough. But when it came time to come back to Haliburton, Rutter jumped at the opportunity. "I grew up watching local politics, seeing Murray Ferrey and everyone else, and I knew this was where I wanted to be. It's been an absolute privilege to be the CAO for this county."

During his eight years as CAO, Rutter shared that there have been many highs and lows, with the most difficult chapter presenting itself during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The pandemic changed work in many ways; working from home, pivoting our lives. It was a very challenging time."

Rutter credited the staff and members of council for navigating choppy waters during the trying times. "It's my job just to make sure things are fulfilled," he said, "it's council members, the directors, and the front line staff who do all the work."

When asked about projects he's most proud of during his time as CAO, Rutter once again credited the staff and council for the work they've done in the community. "They're some of the best I've ever worked with," he said.

"I always try to leave a place better than I found it," he went on, sharing that some projects that were relevant during his time in the role included making strides towards affordable housing in the area, launching the connectivity conversations to ensure internet across the



Mike Rutter has been the CAO for Haliburton County for eight years, and will be retiring this fall to pursue a different pace in life. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

board, the development of the community paramedic program, and the 24/7 ambulance in Tory Hill to name a few. "I am proud of the very, very small role I've played in all of that," he said.

With the involvement in the array of projects over the years, Rutter said that he's become quite passionate about many of the initiatives, and hopes to continue to be involved in a volunteer capacity once his work days are over. "Things like housing, healthcare, and mental health have become very important to me," he said, hoping he can have the opportunity to get more involved without the regular workload.

As for next steps, Rutter shared that upon retirement, his first course of action is to "sleep for a couple of months," he laughed. He noted that the role of CAO requires a lot of energy, and he knows that personally, he is seeking a slower pace. Plus, he believes it's always good to have fresh eyes on some of the existing projects, and he shared that the county will be starting their recruitment process for a new CAO shortly.

Through the highs and the lows of the role, Rutter expressed nothing but gratitude for the opportunity to work for the people of Haliburton County, and continues to carry that hometown pride that allowed his heart and soul to be in every part of his work. "I will always have that commitment to my community," he said, "there's just something about the Haliburton way."

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Jack Walker, Chloe Billings and Anthony Dumas arrive ahead of the start of prom at the Pinestone.



Destiny Wilson, Caelie Grant, Rachel Holtzman and Ciara Wilson pose for a photo.

Keep prom and carry on

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School seniors got dressed up on Saturday, May 27 for their prom at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre. Below, pictured from left, Caden Harnum (left), Kelly Chumbley, Nicole Long and Addison Sullivan pose for a photo upon arrival to prom on Saturday. /ADAM FRISK special to the Echo



An empty dance floor awaits students for the annual prom celebrations.



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Fireworks: A thing of the past

WE JUST GOT through a successful May long week-end – beautiful weather brought cottage residents, sunny skies, and a county-wide fire ban.

The glow of campfires illuminating shorelines was absent this two-four.

I'm sure many spent evenings either in screened-in porches or indoors completely to avoid hungry mosquitoes and black flies.

The fire ban also meant setting off the noisy, sparkly, festive explosives was prohibited.

Fireworks have been around for a long time; centuries.

Historians believe the earliest ones were created in 600 CE in China by pouring gunpowder into hollow bamboo.

Since America's Declaration of Independence, explosives shot into the sky to create a flashy display and a corresponding bang have been used as celebration in North America.

But are they still a symbol of joy?

To many, the sound of them causes dismay.

Some dog owners dread nearby fireworks, because it means their dogs will be sent into a state of panic for hours afterwards.

Some dogs might respond by barking at the perceived threat, running away, or hiding.

Some experts say fireworks can leave long term psychological effects on dogs for the rest of their lives.

In addition to pets, Susan Hay from Environment Haliburton! said in a recent letter to the editor that fireworks are detrimental to birds, too.

They can disrupt flight patterns by pushing them far away from native areas, even to the point of starvation and death as they seek a safe area away from noise.

Birds can also become startled, disoriented, and collide with buildings or trees when fireworks go off in darkness.

This can also result in death.

"Some birds fly vast distances to flee the noise and pollution from fireworks and succumb from the depletion of their energy stores," Hay said.

Short term exposure to fumes from fireworks can worsen existing lung conditions and heart disease.

Toxic carcinogens released from the explosives can also get into our water supplies and soil.

What goes up must come down, and all debris has the ability to entangle or harm wildlife.

"They produce greenhouse gas emissions and add to climate change at a time when we need all hands on deck to reduce these emissions," Hay said.

The Municipality of Dysart does have a fireworks bylaw highlighting some of their risks, and prohibits their use except on New Year's Eve, Victoria Day, Canada Day, the Civic Holiday in August, and Labour Day.

The bylaw can be found here: www.dysart.ca/en/municipal-government/By-Law-Enforcement/By-Law-2020-54-Fireworks-By-law.pdf.

Like any bylaw, it's

up to residents and visitors to follow it.

Both you and I have likely heard the sound or watched the sky light up on other days of the year.

And, although the bylaw is in place, it is likely not easily enforced in a community with already-limited resources.

If police are getting noise complaints of fireworks during a long weekend, it can potentially take time away from serious calls of people needing immediate assistance.

I love watching fireworks as much as anyone else, but are a few minutes of awe worth the health and environmental consequences?

Is there a better, safer way to celebrate going forward?



vivian collings

Editorial



Apple blossoms by David Zilstra

Just when you thought ...

SOMETIMES DEATH can be over-estimated. Plants might look like they hadn't survived frigid temperatures but first appearances could be deceiving. Now that the weather had finally warmed, Jim was inspecting his flower beds and bushes to see how it all had dealt with winter. Jim had always liked gardening. His father had been his role model and so it didn't bother him in the least when he used to be called "girly" as a boy for mucking around with the flowers.

Spring was a time for rejuvenation and the beauty of perennial gardens was that he didn't have to wait very long to see what was growing. However just because the plants came back every year didn't mean they required no work. But first he had to take stock. So he strolled along, head down and let his eyes wander from green shoots to buds to more green shoots.

It was a great day to be outside. The sun was like a spotlight on the new growth and birds hopped around looking for food and building material. He ignored the black flies that had just arrived with the warmer weather. Their presence was a small price to pay for living in this special place.

The ground was carpeted in blue forget-me-nots which he had never planted but which continued to pop out of the ground every spring. Just seeing them gave him a lift before he had even looked at his own garden efforts. Dandelions hummed with bees and soon the purple bugle weed blooms would become a huge attraction to the little insects, filling the air with their energetic foraging.

And ah yes – there by the fence was the rose bush he had transplanted last fall. An old favourite, Jim had first put it in the ground twenty years ago. But another nearby shrub had grown big and wide and ended up crowding the rose bush. It was easier to move than the interloper, so even though he knew it was a gamble, Jim had dug carefully and deep around the rose bush, then moved it to an ideal spot of full sun

and plenty of room.

But now it looked pretty forlorn when Jim inspected it. There was just a touch of green near its base with the rest of the plant appearing lifeless. And this wasn't the only sad situation. Another bush, an old hydrangea that had given Jim years of pleasure, appeared to have a rotten trunk. Maybe it was time for some new blood, he thought, a chance to try something different to replace the old and worn-out.

However no immediate decisions had to be made, so following his inspection, he returned indoors and started looking through his gardening books. He knew information was available on the internet but Jim preferred the large colourful books he had acquired over the years. Inspiration was on every page.

He came across the section on pruning and started thinking some more. If the two bushes were indeed past redemption, pruning wouldn't bring them back. But if there was still enough life in them, the pruning might bring it out. Or so he thought. So grabbing his heavy shears he returned outside and cut mercilessly.

Patience was not one of Jim's strongest attributes but he forced himself to wait a week before taking another look at the rose bush and the hydrangea. He was pleasantly surprised to see more green on the rose bush. And what was left of the hydrangea – for Jim had been brutal with the shears here – appeared to be stable and had even added more shoots. So there was life left in both of these old survivors. Jim was very glad he hadn't jumped to conclusions when he had first seen their sorry state. Time, combined with a bit of knowledge and the willingness to try a different approach had resulted in a positive outcome.

Later as he sat on his deck and thought of how his yard would look mid-July, he was grateful for so much. Books and plants and sunshine. And his own willingness to just try.

Down



sharon lynch

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points of view

The 87-year-old yam

WHEN YOU write a humour column – or, as some people call it, “an alleged humour column” – you have to rely on a few basic principles. Chief among them is the freedom to exaggerate a little.

That’s why I was crushed when Jenn stifled my creativity a few days ago. I’m not even sure why.

All I said was, “That yam is probably 87-years-old...”

Before you get all bent out of shape, let me just say that this is not a statement I would normally make. More importantly, I was not being ageist. It was just an observation.

In fact, given the circumstances, it seemed appropriate. That yam had seen better times.

Also, I uttered those words because I needed a subject for a humour column and, quite fortuitously, Jenn pulled the old sweet potato in question out of the cupboard that serves as our potato bin right at the very moment when I was struggling.

But rather than just rolling her eyes and letting the statement pass like she always does, Jenn responded by saying, “It’s about a month old. It’ll be fine.”

Of course, she was missing the point.

The whole point of me telling her that the sweet potato in question was four score and seven years old was that it was a gross exaggeration that could, in fact, if a fellow was desperate enough, lead to a humour column – OK, alleged humour column.

Which is to say there is nothing very funny about a one-month-old yam. A yam like that is practically in its prime, living a good life, visiting foreign places and experiencing exotic potato culture. In fact, it is maybe the opposite of funny when you consider that Jenn removed the yam from the bin because we were about to slice it up, bake it and smother in in butter.

On the other hand, an 87-year-old yam is funny. For one thing, it would have eluded the tragic fate of most store-bought yams, and for 87-years no less.

I think we can all agree that a yam like that has some stories to tell.

An 87-year-old yam would have lived through of the most prosperous and interesting times in recent history. Sure, it had to walk a mile to school, rain or shine, every morning. Yes, it grew up in a time when young yams were seen and not heard, and when other root vegetables were also just beginning to recover from the hardships of the Great Depression.

Then again, there is a bright side too.

An 87-year-old yam presumably has grandkids and great-grandkids and always has Werther’s candy in a pocket and a corny joke to tell. He definitely uses words like “whippersnapper” too. Probably refers to his car as a buggy.

Most endearingly, he is quite likely celebrating his 65th wedding anniversary.

And, for some reason that thought just makes me smile.

I guess it’s because I’m imagining his wife lovingly calling him – and don’t ask me how I know it is a he – My Sweet Potato. In short, a yam like that is likeable and great fodder for a humour column. OK, alleged humour column.

I recognize that this is odd and perhaps not relatable for most of you.

But I can’t help it. This is how my mind works.

As a great sailor once said, I yam what I yam



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

This week’s pic of the past was posted online by the Haliburton Highlands Museum. It’s an image that first ran in the Haliburton County Echo. “One of the most exciting days in the museum’s history must have been May 16, 1979, when Reid House was on the move! The decision had to made to move the museum to Glebe Park and construct a new main gallery space, but Reid House was to be refurbished as a period home,” the museum writes. The museum will be marking 50 years of serving the community on Saturday, Aug. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. Give them a call to find out more at 705-457-2760.

letters to the editor

Questions for the MOH

To the Editor,

The following is a letter that was written to Sylvia Jones, Ontario’s Deputy Premier and Minister of Health:

Ms. Jones,

Thousands of people from across various ridings are suddenly going to realize that the exemplary Minden ER is permanently closed. (children’s camps, cottagers with their countless visitors, white water paddlers, STR’s, etc.) Will they be angered in disbelief that you, as the MOH, did not stop this?

1. Will you be held responsible for signing the Minden ER closure?

2. Are amalgamation or consolidation shameful doublespeak for closure?

3. Is the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Trump in their presentation of ‘truths’? If various nurses who have applied for positions to HHHS could not get interviews regardless of experience, what other half-truths or mis-truths has HHHS provided?

4. What makes the current HHHS the absolute

source of all the truth?

5. Will you pass the test of due diligence at doing your job if you are the one who signs to permanently close this Hospital ER, ... and real people’s lives will be lost because of that?

6. Are you stating that a medical building, etc. can still be called a hospital?

7. Will there still be a blue H at the highway? If not, do not say in the Legislature that Minden will still have a hospital. What does a blue H mean if not at least an ER?

8. Will your fellow caucus members face long lasting fallout with their many constituents who value the Minden ER?

If many reliable people informed you that your GPS is taking you down a road that is unsuitable and dangerous, do you continue to ‘follow the GPS? Probably not, you would change course rather than blindly rely on the GPS.

Are you going down a dangerous path ignoring reliable, highly-visible danger signals?

What does incompetence look like?

Bernie Davis,
Minden

Leaders should protect people

To the editor,

Mr. Poilievre wants to privatize the CBC if by chance he wins the next federal election. In relation to that and some other ideas he’s been voicing, I have some free advice for him:

The new national news anchor should be Tucker Carleson - a man who says socialist Canada must be taken over by the USA. He thinks entertainment, profit, and fiction to be more important than truth and facts.

If Donald Trump does not win the next USA election or is not in jail, he should be the Minister of Religion, Education, Finance, and Offshore

Investments. He claims he can bring God back to North America, his close ties with Mr. Putin will surely give us a cheaper shipping rate in Russia’s Northwest Passage.

I’m sure Mr. Poilievre would introduce a guaranteed living wage to allow every family to have affordable health care, education, home ownership, and a livable environment for all Earth’s inhabitants.

The goal of our leaders should be to protect everyone, not just look out for their own jobs.

Fred Phipps,
Haliburton



HALIBURTON COUNTY AT MINDEN FAIRGROUNDS

FAIR

Saturday June 10th 2023

PRESENTED BY THE MINDEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SINCE 1864

SCHEDULE OF

Events

- 9 am: Fairgrounds open
9 am: Vendors, artisans, demonstrations
10 am - 2 pm: Re/Max Balloon Rides Weather Permitting
10:30: Opening ceremonies with dignitaries and fair board executives
Noon - 3 pm: Zoo to You
3:30 pm: Horse Pull
All Day: Classic & Antique Car Show
All Day: Kids Pony Rides
All Day: CURLING CLUB:
exhibits, tea room, baked goods, demonstrations, woodworking and much more.
All times are subject to change

Things to See

THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- ~ OPP, Minden Fire Department, EMS
- ~ Food Vendors - Kawartha Dairy Ice Cream
- ~ Crafts/Quilt Displays
- ~ Small Auction
- ~ Wood Processing Demonstrations
- ~ Heavy Equipment Demonstrations
- ~ 50/50 Draw (Only 3000 tickets sold)
- ~ Minden PRIDE
- ~ Haliburton Rotary Club Draw Truck Tickets Available
- ~ Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association
- ~ And much more

Main Stage

ENTERTAINMENT

★ **LIVE MUSIC** ★
Boshkung Brewing Beer Tent

- 11:00 - 11:30: **The Country Hot Flashes**
11:30 - 12:00: **Louie Reynolds**
12:00 - 12:30: **Barnard & Brohm**
1:00 - 2:20: **The Todd Nolan Show**
3:30 start: **Open Mic**

Admission

Adults: \$10
Kids Ages 6 - 12: \$5
5 & under: No Charge
All kids events included in admission

Should I Bring Anything?

- Lawn chair(s) • Rain Jacket/Gear (Just in case)
- Sunscreen • Hat • Bug Spray • Comfortable Footwear
- Although some vendors and artisans may have debit transactions available - it would be a good idea to bring cash as well.

Camping

\$25 per trailer -
Plus fair admission(s)

Limited Hydro - First Come, First Served
Arrive: Friday, June 9 - 8:30 am Depart: Sunday, June 11 - 11 am

Kids & Youth

EVENTS

- ~ Bouncy Castles
- ~ Pockets the Clown (with face painting)
- ~ Dalrymple Rabbitry
- ~ Natural Resources & SMOKEY the BEAR
- ~ Kids Games
- ~ Turtle Guardians
- ~ Farmers Association Farm Animals

www.haliburtoncountyfair.ca

letters to the editor

Minden Rotary shares their thoughts

To the Editor,

For over 75 years the Rotary Club of Minden has been helping and supporting our community, standing behind our commitment of "Service Above Self."

Many who have been to our meetings or one of our events might remember our Four-Way test of the things we think, say, and do. It is a tool we use when taking any action or making any decision, a set of guiding principles:

1. Is it the *truth*?
2. Is it *FAIR* to all concerned?
3. Will it build *good will* and *better friendships*?
4. Will it be *beneficial* to all concerned?

Using the principles outlined in the Four-Way Test, The Rotary Club of Minden has supported fundraising efforts in our community in founding the Hospital Building Fund, generating over \$300,000 in initial support and continued annual support through the Haliburton Highlands Health Services

Foundation and Minden Health Care Auxiliary, and Physician Recruitment signage. To this day we support Hyland Crest. We thank those who contributed with us in the past to ensure a future for the hospital in Minden. We hope these acts of generosity were not in vain.

It is based on the principles that Minden Rotary will continue to be of service to the community of Minden, to fundraise and support deserving projects and initiatives that will be beneficial to all concerned.

We ask that, not just Rotarians but anyone making decisions, especially where the lives and the well being of many people is involved, use our Four-Way Test.

The members of the Rotary Club of Minden are deeply disappointed to learn of the decision to close the Minden ER and in-patient services and to move these to Haliburton.

Members of the
Rotary Club of Minden

'Silence from Queen's Park has been deafening!'

Twenty-eight years ago the Minden Hospital was about to close because of the lack of physician coverage. The Minden Hospital was saved by a group of emergency physicians from Lindsay, Peterborough and Barrie who got together to save the hospital from closing. A number of that same group of emergency physicians continue to provide emergency service to Minden and the surrounding community to this day. The Minden "Team", the nurses, X-ray technicians and physicians worked tirelessly to provide Emergency services. Minden was not just a walk in clinic, it was an Emergency Department receiving the same emergent cases as any other hospital. The hospital attends to a lot of trauma related to cottage activities; ATV, boating, snowmobile and motor vehicle accidents etc., Minden Hospital does so much with so little.

The 25,000 plus individuals who have signed the petition to keep the Emergency Department open understand the importance of the service provided by the Minden Emergency Room. In addition to the Minden community the Minden Emergency also served a large number of cottagers, their families and their guests. Many elderly cottagers spend from May to October and often present acutely ill to the Minden Emergency Department.

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) and the HHHS Board manage both hospitals. The Minden Emergency Department sees significantly more patients than Haliburton. In 2022 Minden 12,000 and Haliburton just 8,000.

Minden Emergency has had an Emergency Physician group that has staffed the Emergency Room continuously for the past 28 years. Haliburton Emergency Room has been at significant risk of closure 20 times in the past year and has had to rely heavily on Health Force Emergency Physicians to provide coverage.

It has been said that the amalgamation

of the Emergency Rooms will make a "progressive medical community" in Haliburton with new equipment. Does this mean a new hospital for Haliburton? The silence from Queen's Park has been deafening!

This upcoming summer the Haliburton Emergency Room will stay open. The patients who previously sought care in Minden will continue to require access to emergency care. It is still not clear if Haliburton Emergency Room can absorb the expected increase patient volume and still provide care in a safe and timely manner.

Going forward, it is unknown if the Haliburton Emergency can remain open 24/7 with adequate physician coverage. That is the big gamble that the Board of HHHS is making. A previous HHHS board chair has apprised me that the two communities have struggled to define where it would be best to localize the delivery of emergent health care in Haliburton County for many years. I am told that Haliburton is central for paramedic services and I am also told that Minden is central based on population density. I hope that the decision to close the Minden Emergency Room has been made with the input of all relevant community stakeholders.

Minden and Haliburton Emergency Departments both provide excellent care with limited resources. Each of these two Emergency Departments needs to remain open to provide timely access to emergent care. Each is no different than a number of small rural hospitals throughout the province who provide a similar service. Minden and Haliburton Emergency Departments, like all rural emergency departments need a CT-scan to facilitate more timely diagnosis and to reduce unnecessary transfers to larger acute care centres.

Dr. Doug Fiddler
(Retired from Minden after
24 of those 28 years)

Head Lake Park



Who are we and what is our mission?

The Head Lake Park Fundraising Committee was formed to help develop a solution that meets our community's needs. The committee is comprised of community members who have come together with a common desire to take meaningful action toward the Master Plan for Head Lake Park and to work together to make it a safe and enjoyable place for everyone in the community.

Our vision is simple: To curate a destination playground that is inclusive and accessible.

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO GO DIRECTLY TO
OUR GOFUNDME PAGE
OR HEAD TO
[HTTPS://GOFUND.ME/A833F6DC](https://gofund.me/A833F6DC)**



Playgrounds are a vital aspect of healthy development both for children, the community, and the local economy. The impacts are vast, and we must do what we can to ensure that it thrives.

Haliburton deserves this space, and we are looking for your support to make sure it happens.

Donations of \$50 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt (not applicable to GoFundMe donations). Donations of \$1000 or more will be acknowledged on a board to be integrated into the playground

More letters to the Editor on page 10

Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
Broker
705-754-5280
ken@kenbarry.com

Jacquie Barry
Realtor®
705-457-0652
jacquie@kenbarry.com

"Out Standing In Our Field"



RE/MAX
PROFESSIONALS
NORTH



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- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Dylan and Marley are two
 - 5. Makes healthy
 - 10 The Who's "O'Riley"
 - 14. Side sheltered from wind
 - 15. Flat-bottomed sailboats
 - 16. Egyptian supreme god
 - 17. Advice
 - 18. Mass of small, loose stones
 - 19. Online learning services provider
 - 20. "Lords" in Northwest Semitic languages
 - 22. Of she
 - 23. A place to relax
 - 24. Critical and mocking
 - 27. Consumed
 - 30. You get one in summer
 - 31. Bath
 - 32. Luxury automaker
 - 35. Spiders spin one
 - 37. Guy (slang)
 - 38. Greek personification of Earth
 - 39. Large instruments
 - 40. Domestic cattle genus
 - 41. Appetizer
 - 42. Oil group
 - 43. Where to put groceries
 - 44. Speak incessantly
 - 45. Popular color
 - 46. A place to sleep
 - 47. Make fun of
 - 48. Former CIA
 - 49. Salts
 - 52. Bleated
 - 55. Never sleeps
 - 56. Sword
 - 60. Water (Spanish)
 - 61. Cyprinids
 - 63. "Dark Knight" actor Christian
 - 64. Fictional demon
 - 65. Old World lizard
 - 66. The content of cognition
 - 67. Makes a mistake
 - 68. A way to make wet
 - 69. Tide

- CLUES DOWN
- 1. One-liner
 - 2. Evergreen genus
 - 3. College in Rome
 - 4. Prevents from seeing
 - 5. Cycles/second
 - 6. Mischievous child
 - 7. Less common
 - 8. Honorably retired
 - 9. Midway between south and southeast
 - 10. A confusion of voices and other sounds
 - 11. Bony fish genus
 - 12. Type of pear
 - 13. Egyptian cross
 - 21. Satisfies
 - 23. Founder of Babism
 - 25. Bar bill
 - 26. Chicago ballplayer
 - 27. Performer
 - 28. Hairpiece
 - 29. Partner to flowed
 - 32. Aircraft formation
 - 33. You have 3 per day
 - 34. Goes into
 - 36. College athletic organization
 - 37. Wet, muddy ground
 - 38. Talk
 - 40. Witty conversation
 - 41. Gurus
 - 43. "French Price of __ Air"
 - 44. Sports equipment
 - 46. Try to get
 - 47. Flower cluster
 - 49. Sea dwellers
 - 50. Palmlike subtropical plant
 - 51. Polio vaccine developer
 - 52. Baseball's Ruth
 - 53. Gelatinous substance
 - 54. Hungarian violinist Leopold
 - 57. Offered
 - 58. Ancient Greek City
 - 59. A way to derive
 - 61. Touch lightly
 - 62. Witnessed

Answers on page 13

letters to the editor

Minden is about to lose its Emergency Department

To the Editor,

This wouldn't be happening if the people who manage the taxes stripped off of our paychecks used that money for what they promised during elections. Primarily, Health Care.

We are being railroaded by dishonest politicians who are refusing to provide the standard and quality of our Health Care.

This creates a different kind of emergency. An emergency of desperation whose solution is to turn Health Care into a profitable business for retired politicians and their associates. The very people you have entrusted to manage your taxes.

Mike Harris has done this with senior care, now Ford is doing this to Health Care.

It makes NO sense that we can't afford an Emergency Room, yet private health care can. Private health care only wants to make money. Private health care will be built on

the foundation of taking all your tax money, then all the rest of your money (in the form of credit, which also makes huge money) just so you can get an antibiotic for a really bad sore throat on Sunday.

How can a for profit system work, if a break even system doesn't?

The solution is to stop allowing politicians, retired politicians and their associates from withholding, misdirecting, and stealing our tax dollars and find someone to put it to its proper use.

Minden's Emergency is everybody's emergency.

Would all of you voters stop being gullible and stupid and instead, stand up for how your taxes are used?

For once.
Please!

Barney Hara,
Gravenhurst

Community message

As a member of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) medical team, we are all deeply committed to delivering high quality and safe care to our community. And, as we have always done, we will do everything in our power to ensure that all those in need of emergency care in Haliburton County can get it.

The decision to close the Minden emergency department and consolidate services at one site as of June 1, 2023 has been an incredibly difficult decision for our leadership that was made after many years of searching for solutions that would stabilize and protect emergency services in the County over the long term.

Our goal is to ensure our community has a stable and safe emergency care system that you can all count on. This means having an emergency department that is open and able to provide quality services - each and every time someone shows up in an emergency department.

The safety of our community has been impacted by the multiple, unpredictable, last-minute closures faced by HHHS over

the past number of years. And we are committed to reducing this risk by consolidating services in one location that can provide consistent service to our community and those seeking care.

We are also working closely with our EMS colleagues and they assure us that our community is supported by access to 911.

Local paramedics are a critical part of our emergency care system. We encourage you to call 911 when you experience a medical emergency, knowing that care begins immediately, while you are on route to the HHHS emergency department.

Looking ahead, we are confident that the staffing coverage model will serve the increased volume expected at the Haliburton site. Our team will continue to deliver the emergency care you depend on, every time you need it.

Dr. Norm Bottum,
Acting Chief of Staff
Haliburton Highlands Health Services

Celebrating the guest of honour

community news

west guilford
Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Duane Adams and Tracy Ballennie have opened the Lakeside golf course for the sixth consecutive year of their ownership, Earl Cox having run it previously. Well before that time Tom Clifford bought the course from us Coopers. He and his sister, Dorothy used to be neighbourly enough to join us for a Friday evening of music sometimes.

Although it's late in offering condolences, the thoughts, sympathy still go out to the Barry family in the loss of Bryan. Anna, you would be welcomed at the bereavement support group at the monthly gathering of those of us who have lost a loved one. It's five years since

I lost Earl and I still find this group supportive and helpful.

And, although not a Guilford name per se, our hearts still go out to Kelly, wife of Jeff Coyell of Haliburton Bulk Food Store who had been such a help with such friendly service over these past years. It was always appreciated by so many in this area that Jeff remembered us by name when we came in, and we miss him sorely.

Patricia Bertram of The Cottage Country Log Cabin store on the Kennisis lake Road is to be congratulated on the twentieth anniversary a year ago on the opening of this most successful business. It has made its mark in the sale of specialized foods, clothing, localized giftware, and many unique cottage comforts to name a few.

Thanks to all who came to the birthday party on May 13 for my sister, Kathleen Owens. You made the day a pleasure for the guest of honour and the whole family appreciated your presence.



Jim Alder*
705-935-1112

Properties Wanted!

- Call me today to book a no obligation property evaluation
- I have buyers waiting...



Andy Campbell
854-0292

In-Town Home in Minden \$480,000

- 4 Beds / 2 Baths, 2100+ Sq Ft
- Large Backyard, Oversized Corner Lot
- Playground, Schools, & Shopping Nearby
- Year Round Municipally Maintained Road



Gloria Carnochan* & Breann Budel*
754-1932

Level Lot Green Lk Rd \$395,000

- Build Your Home Or Cottage With Lake Views
- Level Lot, Easy To Build On, School Bus Route
- Put The Boat In, Go Fishing Or Tour 3 Lk Chain
- Walk 2 West Guilford Store, Restaurant, LCBO



Mark Denny*
457-0473

Beautiful Family Home \$799,900

- Approx 2807 Sq Ft, 233 Ft Rd Frtg, 1.3 Acres
- Great Room, 3 Bdm, 3 Bath, Main Flr Laundry
- Rec Room with Wet Bar, Wrap-Around Deck
- Attached 3 Car Garage, Level Lot, Privacy

Minden Matters

Save the Minden ER
Save our Hospital
#mindenmatters



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 226

Minden Matters!

- Help save the Minden Hills Emergency Department
- Please show your support on keeping the Minden Hills Emergency Department open!



Lindsay Elder*
457-5878

Listings Wanted!

- If you're thinking of selling...CALL ME!
- Strike while the market is hot!



Melanie Hevesi**
854-1000

Silver Beach \$820,000

- The new standard in luxury lakeside living
- 2600 sq.ft. finished space, 4 beds/4 baths
- Main floor primary bedroom & ensuite
- Exclusive use of clubhouse & waterfront



Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 229

Minden Family Home \$629,000

- 2,100+ sq ft home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Lower-level suite ideal for older kids/in laws
- Oversized garage, bunkie/studio, greenhouse
- Sitting on a private, park-like 5-acre parcel



Susanne James* & Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 133

Wenona Lake \$699,900

- Great 3BR family cottage
- Awesome full-length lake view, great swimming
- Newer septic and roof shingles



Ashley McKeigue
705-854-1833

Oblong Lake \$579,000

- 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
- Over 700 feet of clean, sand & rock frontage
- Driveway installed & building site partially clear
- 2-lake chain with premium Haliburton Lake



Brandon Nimigon**
457-2128 x 127

Gooderham Home \$925,000

- 3 Beds / 2 Baths, 1700+ Sq Ft
- Secluded Cottage on 96 Acres!
- Stunning Pond, 600ac of Abutting Crown Land
- 12x11ft Garage, Hot Tub & Cedar Sauna



Karen Nimigon**
457-6505

Haliburton Home \$750,000

- 3 Beds / 2 Baths, 1800+ Sq Ft
- 8.47 Acres, Lg Covered Deck
- Picturesque Views of Local Wildlife
- Oversized Dbl Car Garage, Mins to Town!



Kelly Kay*
705-457-6841
Kirsten Rae*
705-854-1454

Big Brother WAO

- Water access classic 4 bedroom cottage
- 2 acres of privacy w/ 225 ft water frontage
- Miles of boating into Hawk Lakes



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Loop Road

- \$169,000, Area of Many Lakes!
- Very Private, Driveway In
- 4+ Acreage in Harcourt
- Several Choices of Building Sites



Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

Private, Building Lot \$159,000

- 2 Acre Forested Lot
- Beautiful Mixture of Pine & Maple Trees
- Public Access to Basshaunt Lake Close By
- Few Mins From All Amenities of Eagle Lake



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 128

Large Acreage on Cockle Lake!

- 131 Acres, 3000+ ft of Water Frontage
- Hydro Available at the Lot Line
- Year-Round Township Maintained Road
- 20 Mins to Haliburton Village



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

Bethel Road \$549,000

- Incredible 194-acre parcel just mins from Minden
- Long gated driveway to private, cleared site
- Large frontage on picturesque Walker's Pond
- Trails throughout to explore, teaming with wildlife



Tom Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 225

Drag Lake \$949,500

- 3 bedrooms plus Bunkie, minutes from town
- Fully winterized for year round enjoyment
- One of Haliburton's premier lakes for swimming, boating and fishing

The Spring market is in bloom.
Whether buying or selling,
it's a great time to move.
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Haliburton 705-457-2128 | Minden 705-286-2138 | Carnarvon 705-489-9968 | Kennisis/Redstone 705-754-1932

Musical memories

Conductor Dan Manley addresses the crowd during the Highlands Chamber Orchestra's presentation of *Dynamics & Dances* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion on May 27. /TIM YANO special to the Echo



Conductor Dan Manley keeps the music playing.



Notice
(Applicant - Ambike)

In the matter of the Municipal Act and in the matter of a proposed By-Law of the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance for road along the shore of Tamarack Lake, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice Is Hereby Given, pursuant to the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at a virtual meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 26, Concession 3, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on Plan 19R-10774 made by Bishop and Geyer Surveyors, completed March 24, 2021.

The Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by you making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or e-mail the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the public meeting.

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

And Take Further Notice that if the public wishes to participate regarding the purchase of Part of the Shore Road Allowance please contact the Municipal Clerk.

Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 23rd day of May, 2023.

Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk
Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
WILBERFORCE, ON K0L 3C0
rrogers@highlandseast.ca
705-448-2981

Auditor opens the books on
Dysart's financial statements

JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Dysart at al. township council members got a look at some of the figures that will form last year's audited financial performance.

During council's regular meeting May 23, Andrea Hewlitt, engagement partner at Grant Thornton LLP, and Nathaniel Tracey-Stone, the engagement manager at the auditing firm, walked township council through last year's draft financial statements.

Tracey-Stone said the municipality's cash equivalence increased in 2022 over the previous year from \$7.8-million in 2021 to \$9.8-million last year. Dysart financial assets were tabulated to be \$12.3-million last year, more than the \$10.3-million in 2021.

"Overall municipal debt and lease obligations have decreased as a result of re-payments," he said.

Last year's municipal debt was \$2.2-million and the township's capital lease obligations tallied \$62,749. In 2021, the debt was \$2.7-million and the capital lease obligations were \$205,409.

As for surplus revenue, Dysart accumulated \$34.6-million last year, which was a smidgen over the \$34-million the year before.

About the statement of operations, Tracey-Stone said actual figures for 2022 were overall in line with the budgeted amounts with a few exceptions.

One exception is the gain on disposition of tangible capital assets of more than \$1-million. It was not a budgeted line item.

Another exception was the amount garnered from user charges, licenses, and fine that came in at \$3.9-million over the \$3.1-million that was anticipated in the budget.

"This contributed to an overall total revenue of \$19.5-million versus \$16.7-million in the previous year and \$17.3-million budgeted," Tracey-Stone said.

Total expenses came in at \$18.9-million versus

\$19.3-million in the budget. In 2021, the township's expenses were \$17.2-million.

"The largest variances were between transportation services and environmental services," Tracey-Stone said.

The surplus for 2022 was \$616,801, compared to the previous year's deficit of \$455,333 and a \$1.9-million budgeted deficit in 2022.

Landfill closure and post-closure liability cost \$6-million in 2022, more than the \$4.4-million the previous year.

Mayor Murray Fearrey questioned why there was such an increase in one year.

"I'm not questioning the number," he said. "I'm just questioning how it jumped \$2-million in one year because it's about \$300,000 to close the one site."

Tracey-Stone said the figure was an estimate provided by another agency that Grant Thornton used to work with.

Hewlitt said they got the third-party management expert report and its assumptions are weighed by auditors.

"We're looking at the qualifications of the expert that management has received he report from," she said.

There's an annual average index of prices and inflation's role in the present value of the post-close expenditures that are considered.

"I think that's probably what's really driving the \$6-million (liability cost)," she said.

Hewlitt said the audit is "substantially complete" and one of the items outstanding is council's approval of the financial statements.

Part of the audit is assessing any lasting impacts from COVID-19 and economic changes that really need to be considered and disclosed through the audit.

"We really felt like there's very limited impact on the numbers," Hewlitt said. "You can see that."

"You've got your user fees coming up year over year, which we would expect as things open up and our places of work and life get a little busier."

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

P	V	E	N		W	E	D	E	B		S	R	R	E
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V	B	V	B		S	E	R	U	C		S	B	O	B



Black and white warbler, spotted on the annual Don Smith Memorial Spring Bird Walk.
/ TIMOTHY YANO Special to the *Echo*

The Annual Don Smith Memorial Spring Bird Walk

RICK WHITTEKER

Special to the Echo

With its brilliant orange plumage greeting us like a warm sunrise, the timely arrival of a male Baltimore Oriole appeared like a good omen for a morning bird walk. Sure enough, it turned out to be a great morning of birding at The Annual Don Smith Memorial Spring Bird Walk led by local naturalist Ed Poropat.

Starting at the parking area on the rail trail across from the high school, this guided walk was another excellent Discovery Day program hosted by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. Poropat started off by encouraging the 20 plus participants to practice our binocular sighting skills. Sighting a bird, then bringing the binoculars up to your eyes was advised to locate birds quickly and – a skill that takes practice! For the seemingly relaxed oriole, no binoculars were needed but for those frolicking, flighty and restless – now that’s a different story!

The first warbler to greet us was the Common Yellowthroat with its witchety-witchety-witchety song. Pairing a beautiful yellow throat and broad black mask, this common warbler was, for most of us, a new and exciting discovery, a flash of yellow amongst the tangle of green vegetation.

Starting slow, the bird activity warmed up with morning temperatures. Chestnut-sided warblers were active and common all along the trail. The Yellow warbler made a brief appearance, as did the stunning Magnolia and Blackburnian warblers.

Some birds were tricky to spot. To help, Poropat had most birdsong recordings readily available and with his handy portable speaker placed on the ground away from the group, he could often entice an avian visit. Limiting his use of recordings, Poropat explained that “excessive use of recordings can be quite disruptive to the birds as they spend their time looking for the source instead of eating and doing other things.”

Many of the birds we saw were males, the more colourful of the two genders in birds. Most males are here to establish territory and find a mate, taking advantage of our protein rich habitats (read: buggy!) to fuel up after a long migration and to feed their young. However, some warblers we saw are just passing through. For example, the Bay Breasted

and Cape May warblers stop in our area for a protein meal before continuing to migrate to their breeding grounds further to the north.

To our surprise, right in front of us, an American Bittern flew awkwardly out of a trailside wetland. This brown streaked heron with a long neck and gangly feet was in stark contrast to the small songbirds that were our focus up to then.

Appearances on our walk were also made by the striking black and orange American Redstart and the Black and White warbler who acts “more like a nut-hatch,” says Poropat, hanging upside down perusing tree trunks and branches for hidden insect and spider caches under the bark. A Great Crested Flycatcher called and perched for us high in the treetops. A very cooperative Indigo Bunting showed off its shocking incandescent blue plumage. The common call of teacher, teacher, teacher of the Ovenbird was heard and the frisky ramblings of two Grey Catbirds were seen near ground level.

Levity was added to the walk when Poropat tried to mimic the unique tail pumping behaviour of the Water Thrush by doing a twerk-like dance on trail much to the chagrin of his daughter Tamara, who was assisting with the birding program.

A Red-Eyed Vireo sang to us from its usual perch in the upper canopy as did a White-throated Sparrow singing its, *oh sweet, Canada, Canada, Canada* song as we hiked along. Heard but not seen by me were the endangered Canada warbler and Eastern Meadowlark.

The threatened white and black Bobolink appeared in the distant shrubbery across a grassy field. Unlike most birds who are dark on top and light underneath, the Bobolink is white on top and black through the belly, looking like it put on a tuxedo backwards! The meadowlark and Bobolink populations are both suffering from grassland habitat loss and the untimely cutting of hay fields before the young nestlings have fledged from their ground nests.

Before heading back to the car after two and a half hours of stimulating birding, a flash of orange caught my eye. The male Baltimore Oriole had returned, perched on an exposed branch beside the trail. A fitting end to wonderful morning of colour and fleeting glances at the remarkable bird diversity on this short section of the rail trail.



Voting is good for your health

Bonnie and Greg Roe stand at the advanced voting station on May 23 in Haliburton. The referendum vote by the Ontario Health Coalition was scheduled for May 26 and 27, with the results shared on Tuesday, May 30 at 10 a.m. in Head Lake Park. There were many local businesses who carried ballot boxes on Friday and Saturday for locals to cast their votes.
/EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Ave., P.O. Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Telephone: (705) 457-1740
Email: info@dysartetal.ca
Website: www.dysartetal.ca

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

- DATE: Wednesday, June 14th, 2023
- TIME: 11:00 am.
- LOCATION: The Committee of Adjustment will be held as an electronic meeting only.
The meeting will be recorded through the conferencing application and live streamed to YouTube.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-2023-009 Macnaull

- The following variances are requested to permit construction of an addition to a private cabin located on a lot in the WR4L zone:

- a) A variance to Section 3.19 (a)(iv) to permit an increase in area of 16.9 square metres (182 square feet) to a legal non-complying private cabin, for a total GFA of 45.6 square metres (490 square feet), as opposed to the legal non-complying area of 28.7 square metres (308 square feet);
- b) A variance to Section 3.1(d)(iii) to permit the gross floor area of a private cabin to be 45.6 square metres (490 square feet), which exceeds the permitted gross floor area of 45 square metres (484 square feet).

- Location: Part Lot 6, Concession 7, Parts 1 to 3, 19R3704 in the Geographic Township of Dudley, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

2. D13-MV-2023-010 Farebrother

- The following variances are requested to legalize the dwelling located on a lot in the WR4L-1 zone:

- a) A variance to section 5.2 to permit a dwelling to have a 0.55 metre (1.8 feet) interior side lot line setback, as opposed to the permitted 4.5 metres (15 ft).

- Location: Part Lot 11, Concession 7, Block 220, Plan Little Straggle in the Geographic Township of Harcourt, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Council passed By-law 2020-69 to amends the Committee of Adjustment of the Municipality of Dysart et al's Procedural By-law to permit electronic participation in meetings. There will not be an in-person meeting; this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at dvibert@dysartetal.ca.

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions. A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Danielle Vibert
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment



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A West Virginia white rests briefly on a Yellow Trout lily bloom. /Photo by Ed Poropat

Highlands Corridor continues to shine

While conducting wildlife inventories for the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust south of Gooderham, local field naturalist Ed Poropat recently discovered a colony of West Virginia White butterflies. This population represents the first known location of this rare butterfly in Haliburton County and adds yet another species at risk to the growing list of rare fauna utilizing the Highlands Corridor.

As the name suggests, the West Virginia White is a predominantly white butterfly with a wingspan of about three to four centimetres. It is limited to moist deciduous forests with a healthy population of Toothwort, its host plant. Despite a relative abundance of this habitat type, the West Virginia White is rare throughout its Canadian range, occurring in localized pockets. In fact, during the 1970s, this species was one of the few insects on the Endangered Species list, receiving the highest designation (endangered) and offered the greatest protection. Since that time, this butterfly has been found at additional locations in southern Ontario, subsequently being downlisted to a vulnerable status. Although the West Virginia White was likely never common in Ontario, it was further threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation. These butterflies avoid crossing open ground and are thus highly susceptible to habitat

fragmentation. More recently, the invasive Garlic Mustard plant poses a high risk. Garlic Mustard is in the same family as their host plant Toothwort, so these insects are fooled into laying their eggs on the invasive plant. The eggs hatch but the larvae cannot feed successfully and soon perish.

The Highlands Corridor links Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park to Silent Lake and Kawartha Highlands Provincial Parks; is a biodiversity “goldmine”; and has been a focus of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust for several years now. Conserving lands and waters in the Highlands Corridor will ensure high quality habitat for many plants and animals. Its protection is a nature-based solution to building climate change resilience and provides much needed connectivity for species shifting ranges on account of the changing climate. In addition, the many wetlands would help mitigate flooding and sequester carbon at the same time. For further information on the Highlands Corridor, visit highlandscorridor.ca. One can’t help but wonder what hidden treasures the Highlands Corridor will reveal next?

Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

Out for a dip

The Ontario Watercross Racing Association came to town on May 27 and 28 at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre. The event drew visitors and locals to the site to watch competitors race across the water track. /TIM YANO special to the Echo



Welcoming wellness

The Wellness Hub will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, June 3 from 12:30 until 3:30. All are welcome to drop by and have a look at the space. Some businesses that operate out of the Wellness Hub will be there to answer any questions and share information on their business and the services they offer. There will be a draw for a giveaway for those who attend. /Photo by Danielle Meredith

Protect yourself and others against lyme disease

Prevention and precaution are advised as springtime brings an increased risk of vector-borne diseases. The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR District Health Unit) encourages residents to remain vigilant and take proactive measures to minimize the risk of these diseases.

According to HKPR District Health Unit’s, Manager of Health Protection, Richard Ovcharovich, “Springtime brings an increased risk of vector-borne diseases, particularly ticks, and Lyme disease, as well as West Nile virus. It is vital for individuals to be aware of the risks and to take appropriate precautions to protect themselves, their families, and their communities.”

Ticks are tiny arachnids that thrive in wooded and grassy areas, that pose a

significant threat to public health. Their bites can transmit Lyme disease, a bacterial infection that can cause severe complications if left untreated. According to local data, the number of reported Lyme disease cases has been steadily rising, emphasizing the need for increased awareness and preventive measures.

To tackle this growing concern, it is recommended to take the following precautions:

Avoid tick-infested areas: When possible, avoid tall grass, dense vegetation, and wooded areas by staying on trails.

Wear protective clothing: When venturing into tick-prone environments, cover exposed skin by wearing light-coloured clothing with long sleeves, long pants, and closed-toe shoes. Tuck your pants into socks to prevent ticks from

crawling up the legs.

Use insect repellent: Apply insect repellents containing DEET or picaridin on exposed skin and clothing. Always follow the instructions provided by the manufacturer.

After an outing: Placing clothing directly in a dryer and drying them for a minimum of six minutes on high heat will effectively kill ticks on clothing.

Perform tick checks: After spending time outdoors, thoroughly inspect your body for ticks. Pay close attention to hard-to-reach areas such as the scalp, behind the ears, and under the arms. Prompt removal of attached ticks reduces the risk of infection.

Create tick-safe environments: Make your home and yard less attractive to ticks by regularly mowing the grass,

removing leaf litter, and creating a barrier between wooded areas and recreational spaces.

The HKPR District Health Unit no longer accepts ticks for testing and instead refers residents to use etick.ca, a public platform for image-based identification and population monitoring for ticks in Canada. In 2022 there were 5,444 ticks submitted to etick.ca from Ontario alone.

By working together and implementing these preventive strategies, we can significantly reduce the impact of vector-borne diseases like Lyme disease. For more information visit hkpr.on.ca/FightTheBite.

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Interested applicants may submit their resume and cover letter to Laura Casey at hr@dysartet.ca, and indicate **Digital Transformation Specialist** as the subject. Applications must be submitted via email and may be accepted until 12:00 pm on Friday June 9, 2023.

We thank all of those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.



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U-Links is looking for an enthusiastic, self-directed individual to work with our community-based research team. Under the supervision of the U-Links Program Coordinator and the U-Links Director, you will be responsible for assisting with the Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch program and Water Quality Pilot Project as well as supporting other research projects undertaken by U-Links.

The ideal candidate will have post-secondary education (environmental studies, environmental sciences, environmental tech, ecosystems management, biology, or related field) and field knowledge of ecological monitoring and biological sampling methods (OBBN certification and/or experience with vegetation sampling protocols are preferred).

This is a 33-week contract from June 12th, 2023, to January 31st, 2024. Compensation is \$22.50/hour. For a full job description and more details go to www.ulinks.ca

Email a detailed cover-letter and resume to admin@ulinks.ca by June 2nd, 23:59 EST

Candidates must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person granted refugee status in Canada and be between the ages of 15-30 (inclusive) at the start of employment.

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation provides housing for seniors and families in 3 locations in the village of Minden.

We are hiring a **Maintenance Assistant**
(part-time 22.5 hours per week)

This position is responsible for the
cleanliness and maintenance
of Staanworth's properties.

Primary duties include maintaining cleanliness of all building entrances, hallways, common rooms, washrooms, laundry and garbage rooms. Secondary duties include minor repairs to apartments, assistance with move-out procedures, garbage transport to landfill and yard maintenance. Job description is available on request.

Successful applicant will have experience in cleaning and sound knowledge of employment safety regulations. WHMIS certification desired. A driver's license and an abstract will be required. A Vulnerable Police check will also be required.

This position includes employer paid benefits (medical, dental, vision and life insurance). Wage will be \$18/hour or more based on experience. Position is available immediately.

Please submit your resume no later than 4:30p.m.
June 8, 2023 to: Staanworth Non-Profit Housing,
44 Parkside Street, Minden, KOM 2K0 or
emailed to staanworth@gmail.com

Watson General Contracting
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Camp Timberlane is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16 and is looking to hire candidates to join our onsite Housekeeping team. For more information about the camp, visit us at www.Camptimberlane.ca

Housekeeping/Laundry - Full Time, Temporary, Contract

Three positions available

Our Housekeeping and Laundry areas are managed with teams split between Housekeeping and Laundry.

Responsibilities include: cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp

facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

Expected Start date: Immediately

Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment. Salary: Housekeeping \$17.50 - \$19.50 per hour based on experience..

Submit resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca

570 NOTICES



27th Annual Meeting of Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda - Business of the Corporation:
Reports of the CEO and Board, Chief of Staff, Auditor,
Foundation, Nominating Committee, Election of Directors, and
Appointment of Auditors

The 27th Annual Meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held as a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom application. In order to participate, Corporation members and members of the public who wish to attend will require an invitation, which will provide further information on how to participate. Cut-off for registration is June 16, 2023.

For further information or to arrange for an invitation, please contact:

Mrs. Michel Henry
HHHS Administration Office
Phone: 705-457-2527
Email: mhenry@hhhs.ca

Haliburton Echo

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540 COMING EVENTS

NORWOOD COUNTRY JAMBOREE July 20 - July 23 at the Norwood Fairgrounds
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595 BIRTHDAYS



BIRTHDAY BASH

Come and join Ed Pickard for his 90th birthday bash!

When: Saturday June 10/23
Where: Haliburton Legion, main hall
Time: 2pm - 6pm
Entertainment by: The Kingfishers
Food served by: Ladies' Auxiliary

In lieu of gifts, donations to the elevator fund would be appreciated.

It is open house, all are welcome!

520 THANK YOU



Kathryn and I wish to thank Haliburton County residents, the Doctor's, nurses and staff in the Nursing Homes, for three decades of support of our Practice. We have to especially thank Debbie Bull in the Minden office who for over 20 years has been not only a fellow worker, she is considered a valuable friend.


It is with mixed emotions we say goodbye to the Hearing Aid business. We wish the new owners nothing but the very best. Hometown Hearing brings you new faces, newly renovated offices, new product line, with old fashion hometown services.

We look forward to seeing many of you at one of my concerts in the County and to our dear friends shut -in the Nursing Homes Gord will continue his "sing-a-longs in each home as he has been doing for over 30 years.

We truly feel blessed to be living in a community whose visual beauty is second only to the beautiful people we know as neighbors and friends.

To all our most sincere, thank you.
Gord and Kathryn Kidd

650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Smith Bertram Maurice
(1932 - 2023) Passed away peacefully at home, the way he wanted to on Monday May 22, 2023.

Bert leaves behind his wife of 61 years, Gwen. His children Tyke (Jean) of Haliburton, Konnie (Mike Caruso) of Oshawa predeceased by his daughter Kim and her husband Greg Rowe. Papa to Hayley, Emily, Alex, Holly, Mike, Ryker and Carter. Great GrandPapa to 6. Bert was the oldest son of Francis and Allan Smith of Haliburton. He moved to Oshawa/Whitby at age 19 where he began his 35 year career at General Motors. He was proud to boast he was retired for 34 years. He loved the Haliburton Highlands and often said it will always be his home. Enjoying their cottage on Cannings Lake in summertime, cutting wood and working on his infamous suntan were his passions. His quick wit and infectious smile made him difficult not to love. He loved his family especially his grandkids, sharing stories about the good old days over some chips and a half pint of beer. He also loved money, country music, chocolate and warm sunny days. Simple things but he lived his life the way he wanted to until the very end.

There wont be a formal service as per Dads wishes but there will be a Celebration of his life at their home when the flowers are in bloom. Please drop by for the opportunity to cheers with a half of a beer and share in memories of a life well lived.

"It's Not Goodbye ... It's until we see you again Mr. Smith." P.S. sorry your final ride was in a Chrysler.



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INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

BY GEORGE!

Sculptor George Pratt returns to the Highlands to teach four-week course

HALIBURTON HOME SHOW

It's time to do some one-stop shopping at this popular annual event

ART'S FINE LINE

Cartoonist Robert VanNood's exhibit at Minden gallery explores commercial art

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email: echo@halhinet.on.ca

THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

Tuesday, May 28, 2002
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DARREN LUM/Echo

Rising to the challenge

At Saturday's track and field competition among all elementary schools within the county, Ryan Bottum soars over the bar in the midget boys high jump. He won the event with a measurement of 1.35m. For more photos and results of the Legion-sponsored event, please turn to page 10.

Is double cohort double trouble?

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Don't panic.

These two words, used like a mantra by the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School administration, are its answer to two other powerful words that have stalked a group of students throughout high school - double cohort.

There are approximately 200 students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School who will comprise the double cohort this

fall. That's when 40 OAC, or fifth-year, students and 162 Grade 12 students begin their last year of high school together.

Universities across the province have in contrast made it their mission to panic.

Cash-starved post-secondary institutions have been begging the government for the last two decades for more money to improve aging buildings, technology and infrastructure. The double cohort has given them the political clout to demand funding and the Ontario Conservatives have responded with \$218-million last year and

they say \$1-billion in total.

Everyone is asking, is it enough?

The Council of Ontario Universities website outlines how they estimate more than 100,000 students will apply for 60,000 university seats next year. The council explains in a lobbying letter to the provincial government that this strain on the system from at least 33,500 extra students trying to get in the doors at once is just the tip of a 90,000 additional (above average entrance num-

Staffing shortfall

HHHS solves its x-ray technician problem; now it has to work on its on-call nursing shortage

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The x-ray technician crisis has been averted.

But Haliburton Highlands Health Services still has another staffing issue to address: the reluctance of nurses to be available on an on-call basis.

A part-time x-ray technician who had planned to leave the area has decided to stay now that she's been offered a full-time job.

"We have full coverage at both sites," reported Lynne Johnston, director of acute and ambulatory care, at Thursday's Haliburton Highlands Health Services board meeting. "It's a bit tight when someone's ill but we're all right for now."

The new full-time position was created to try to help solve the shortage of technicians, which made it increasingly difficult to staff both Minden and Haliburton emergency sites.

Although the switch will cost the HHHS an additional \$40,000 to \$50,000 a year, it hopes to reduce the cost by reducing over-time costs. As well, the technician will work mornings in Minden and be available afternoons in Haliburton, the busier of the two sites.

Meanwhile, HHHS received many inquiries after it advertised for a full-time technician. While none of the applicants were interested in moving to the area for part-time work,

See Double page 4

See Hospital page 6

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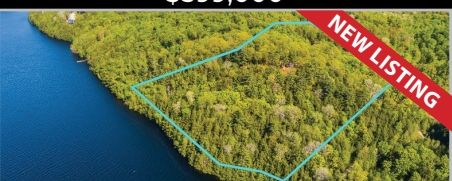
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